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THE YEAR'S BEST



BEST COACH



A slightly overdue recognition of his skills: Hakoah coach Gerry Chaddi receives the "Daily Mirror's" Coach of the Year trophy from national team supremo Rudi Gutendorf (right).

Last week's gala dinner at Sydney's Wentworth Hotel, jointly held by the Australian Soccer Press Association and Philips Industries was, without doubt, the greatest gathering of "stars" ever seen in Sydney soccer.

All the leading names in players, coaches, referees, administrators, sponsors and, of course, soccer writers and commentators from most parts of Australia were there to witness the annual presentation of awards.

Numerous people deserve credit for this hugely successful event — but even from among them some must stand out.

The secretary of ASPA, our "own" Keith Gilmour, the brilliant master of ceremonies, Martin Royal, the chief organisers, David Jack and John Frank can claim the lion's share of credit.

Philips Industries, through Cornelius de Graaf and Bob Collin, Wedgwood through Jim Hughes and several others contributed generously towards the gala's success.

This pictorial page is not just a record of the winners — but also a tribute to the basic concept behind the event: ASPA, the first truly operative and viable association of pressman devoted to any one sport in Australia.

May it prosper and grow together with the game.

• All pictures by Anton Cermak.

GRAND FINAL



PSL Grand Final winners Hakoah president Frank Lowy (left) receives the huge, splendid trophy from Philips' Cornelius de Graaf. Even the two of them couldn't lift it. The trophy was presented by Philips Industries.

PLAYER OF YEAR



PSL Player of the Year, Ken Boden, who was a much regretted absentee at the function. Boden left four days earlier for England and, despite numerous broad hints to delay his departure, decided to miss the presentation. Coach Alan Vest accepted the trophy on his behalf, a superb bowl by Wedgwood.

PSL CHAMPIONS



The 1978 PSL premiership shield of Philips Industries was presented to West Adelaide president Bill Kyros by Cornelius de Graaf, executive of Philips.

BEST IN NSW



Western Suburbs' brilliant Peter Stone (right) wins the Wedgwood bowl as the best NSW player, presented by Rudi Gutendorf.

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BEST REFEREE



The "Sydney Sun" silver whistle for the best PSL referee was won by Peter Rampley (NSW), trying it out to the amusement of PSL chairman Sam Papasavas.

BEST PSL U-21



Hakoah's Ian Souness, 19, accepts the "Soccer World" trophy from editor Andrew Dettre as the best PSL Under-21 player of the year.



ROTHMANS STATE LEAGUE



NSW SCOREBOARDS

ROTHMANS STATE LEAGUE

	APIA	Arncliffe	Auburn	Avala	Bankstown	Croatia	Granville	Monaro	Manly	Olympic	Melita	Sutherland	Yugal	Toongabbie
APIA	●	2-1	1-0	2-2	1-0	2-1	4-0	0-1	2-0	2-0	0-1	0-1	2-0	0-0
Arncliffe	2-1	●	0-8	1-0	0-2	0-1	4-1	0-2	2-1	1-2	0-2	1-1	2-2	1-1
Auburn	1-2	2-2	●	1-3	2-1	0-1	2-0	3-1	2-2	2-1	1-2	2-0	1-2	2-2
Avala	2-1	1-0	0-3	●	3-0	1-0	0-0	2-1	2-1	2-3	1-2	0-4	0-0	1-4
Bankstown	0-2	1-1	0-1	4-2	●	1-3	2-4	2-3	2-0	0-1	2-2	0-2	1-2	0-1
Croatia	1-0	1-0	4-0	5-0	5-1	●	0-1	2-0	4-0	4-0	4-0	0-2	5-0	4-2
Granville	1-4	1-2	0-2	0-0	0-0	0-1	●	1-3	6-1	0-3	2-1	1-1	1-4	0-0
Monaro	2-1	4-1	1-2	3-0	4-0	0-2	3-1	●	1-1	4-1	1-1	2-2	0-0	0-3
Manly	1-1	1-0	1-3	3-2	2-1	0-3	0-0	1-1	●	0-4	1-0	0-2	0-3	0-1
Olympic	2-1	0-0	1-2	2-1	0-3	1-2	3-0	1-1	0-2	●	3-2	0-2	1-0	0-0
Melita	2-0	1-0	3-4	1-0	2-0	1-2	0-3	2-1	5-1	0-2	●	2-1	3-0	2-0
Sutherland	1-0	2-0	2-0	1-0	1-1	0-1	1-0	0-1	3-1	2-1	2-1	●	1-0	1-2
Yugal	0-2	2-3	2-5	0-2	2-2	0-3	0-2	3-3	3-3	2-1	1-2	0-4	●	1-0
Toongabbie	2-3	1-0	2-1	3-2	0-2	1-3	1-0	0-1	0-1	3-0	0-3	1-1	1-2	●

SECOND DIVISION

	Belmore	Blacktown	Gladesville-Hornsby	Guildford	Ku-ring-gai	Marrickville	North Sydney	Polonia	Queens Park	Revesby	Uni. of NSW	Warringah
Belmore	●	0-0	1-2	3-0	1-3	2-1	4-1	1-1	1-2	0-1	3-1	1-1
Blacktown	2-1	●	2-0	2-1	3-3	3-0	2-3	1-2	9-0	2-1	4-0	0-2
Gladesville	1-1	1-4	●	2-6	1-4	2-2	1-3	1-6	1-3	1-2	3-2	2-2
Guildford	1-3	3-1	1-2	●	0-0	2-4	1-3	1-3	0-1	2-4	1-3	2-1
Ku-ring-gai	1-1	3-1	5-1	5-0	●	7-0	3-0	1-1	1-0	2-3	2-1	1-0
Marrickville	1-2	0-2	4-0	1-3	1-3	●	0-5	2-7	2-2	1-1	0-2	1-4
North Sydney	2-1	1-1	2-2	2-2	0-2	1-3	●	3-1	0-1	2-2	3-1	0-5
Polonia	2-2	0-0	1-1	4-1	1-0	1-0	1-0	●	5-1	1-1	2-2	2-0
Queens Park	3-1	0-5	2-1	3-2	1-3	6-2	3-0	2-3	●	1-3	2-4	2-2
Revesby	1-1	2-2	1-3	3-2	1-1	1-1	2-2	2-1	4-2	●	1-0	2-0
Uni. of NSW	1-2	1-5	4-1	4-2	2-3	5-2	3-0	1-0	2-4	3-1	●	1-0
Warringah	0-0	1-2	2-0	0-1	1-4	1-0	0-2	1-0	2-1	0-2	1-3	●

THIRD DIVISION

	Bathurst	Bondi	Dee Why	Gladesville Ravens	Lane Cove	Lethbridge	Nepean	Port Hacking	Riverstone	Wenty	West Ryde	Yagoona
Bathurst	●	0-0	0-1	1-0	3-0	0-0	0-2	2-0	4-0	6-0	1-0	1-0
Bondi	1-2	●	2-2	0-1	1-0	0-1	1-1	3-1	2-0	7-3	1-0	2-0
Dee Why	2-3	1-1	●	2-2	5-1	0-2	2-4	1-0	1-0	4-0	0-1	2-1
Gladesville Ravens	1-5	1-0	2-1	●	1-4	1-3	2-4	0-2	3-0	5-0	2-0	1-1
Lane Cove	0-1	1-4	2-1	0-1	●	1-0	0-1	2-2	0-0	3-0	2-4	0-2
Lethbridge	1-1	2-1	2-2	1-0	0-2	●	1-3	2-3	3-3	2-2	2-0	0-1
Nepean	0-3	4-2	8-1	2-0	3-1	4-1	●	2-1	4-1	7-1	3-2	8-0
Port Hacking	3-8	2-4	4-2	1-0	2-2	1-2	1-3	●	0-0	2-1	3-1	4-4
Riverstone	0-1	1-1	2-1	1-1	2-4	0-0	1-3	0-3	●	1-2	1-1	1-3
Wenty	2-2	0-3	0-3	1-1	1-0	0-4	1-9	1-3	1-3	●	0-0	0-0
West Ryde	0-2	2-3	3-1	1-1	0-0	2-1	3-3	0-2	2-1	2-2	●	0-3
Yagoona	1-2	1-2	4-3	1-1	1-1	5-4	1-2	3-2	1-1	4-0	1-2	●

All tables by courtesy of the NSW Federation.

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SECOND GO AT GRAND FINAL

The postponed NSW Grand Final between Croatia and Sutherland will be played on Sunday at Wentworth Park, weather permitting.

It will be interesting to see which of the two teams will have benefited from the enforced rest.

All things being equal, Croatia should still start favorites.

The decision to cancel last Sunday's match came as a great shock to many fans.

Only some light rain fell on

Sunday morning and the Sports Ground, after days of dry, hot weather, might have been in a playable condition.

Perhaps it would have been possible to stage the first grade match and play the minor grades some other time.

Some readers promptly recalled the 1970 Grand Final which, after

two days of heavy rain, was played on a completely waterlogged Sports Ground with pools of water all over the place.

Yugal went on to beat St. George 4-0 in a drama-filled game.

To show you the conditions on the day, take a look at an action picture of the match.



In the 1970 Grand Final, Yugal's Joe Alagich (dark shirt) played brilliant ducks with the unhappy St. George drakes on the worst surface in living memory.

STATE SOCCER IS THRIVING

There has been some criticism of the standard of football in the NSW Federation but I do not share that opinion.

It must be remembered that while many players have left State soccer for the Philips League in the past two years, it is mainly at State Federation level that young local talent is being fostered.

The Rothmans State League has strict guidelines concerning imported players and locals, while the Philips League is restricted by no such rules.

I believe we are pursuing the correct course because it would be grossly unfair to local boys if we filled our teams with imported players.

It is particularly heartening to see how teams new to the Rothmans State League have justified their promotion.

In particular, Inter Monaro and Melita Eagles performed magnificently during the season, while the potential at Toongabbie is almost unlimited.

We would, naturally, like to see bigger crowds at our matches, although Croatia once again proved their worth by regularly attracting substantial attendances.

May I take this opportunity to congratulate the Croatia officials, players and, above all, their loyal supporters on achieving so much in 1978.

Croatia even carried the NSW soccer flag overseas with a highly successful tour of the USA and Canada — the first Australian club team ever!

Looking at the referees, it is pleasing to note that these dedicated men carried out their difficult job with few complaints and with many compliments.

Joe Vlasits, the State Director of Coaching, has put in another busy year and has skilfully organised his team of coaches to spread the gospel throughout NSW.

By KAREL RODNY,
President, NSW
Soccer Federation

Our coaches have travelled far and wide and, guided by Joe Vlasits, did a fine job.

I would also like to thank my executive committee for putting in many hours of their spare time to further the cause of soccer in this State.

It almost goes without saying that thanks are similarly due to the office staff — in particular the Federation secretary, Aulden Brown.

It is a fact that no code of football can survive without publicity and promotion.

Some people predicted that the advent of the Philips League would virtually force the media to reject NSW Federation soccer.

This has not been the case. Most newspapers regularly carried stories about our clubs and the Saturday lunchtime match previews on radio station 2UE also helped to publicise the games.

Channel Seven TV gave details of our games on the Sunday "Sportsaction" program in which several Federation players and coaches were also interviewed.

I am grateful to John Scott, of Rothmans, for his unceasing efforts to gain publicity for NSW Federation soccer.

Probably the biggest disappointment in the year under review was our inability to attract good touring teams from overseas.

Tours are most valuable because, apart from providing revenue, they also allow our spectators to see some of the world's leading players in action.

English First Division team Derby County agreed to play here, but, with the excuse that they might not be able

to bring a full-strength team, pulled out of their tour commitment at short notice. We were in no way to blame for that.

The top Italian club, AC Milan, also agreed to tour. Milan would have been expensive guests but your executive believed they would have played in front of huge crowds and their tour was a guaranteed success.

Unfortunately, the Australian Soccer Federation refused to sanction the tour, claiming it had been scheduled too close to the dates for the Greek national team's tour of Australia.

As far as the Philips League is concerned, match attendances in Sydney emphasised a point made by my predecessor, Peter McCann, in his report 12 months ago.

He said there were too many PSL teams in Sydney. I believe everyone in soccer now admits the truth of that.

It must be hoped that the PSL management will quickly find a solution to this sizeable headache because a strong, prosperous Philips League is essential to the well-being of soccer throughout Australia.

I end with my sincere thanks to the vast army of club officials — at senior and junior level — who give their time unstintingly to the development of their teams year after year.

Without them, there would be no NSW Federation of soccer clubs.

But I must also thank our generous sponsors, in particular Rothmans, Ampol and Pub Squash, without whose financial assistance it might have been impossible for the Federation to organise and run viable soccer competitions.

For the first time in Federation history, there is now cash available with which to reward Second Division teams — and I know all Second Division clubs are grateful to Rothmans and Ampol for this innovation.



ROTHMANS STATE LEAGUE



NEW BOYS GAVE STATE SPARKLE

It was the 1978 "new boys" who added much needed glamor to the 1978 State League.

Melita Eagles, Inter Monaro and Toongabbie each covered themselves with a measure of glory and, indeed, would have been hard to imagine a successful 1978 without them.

The Eagles reached State League on merit, having won the Second Division in 1977.

With Wollongong City falling by the wayside and Inter Monaro winning election as country invitees, the increase to 14 clubs brought in Toongabbie, with Yugal being saved from relegation.

Bankstown held their place at the beginning of the year.

They were in trouble — as so many others had been over the years — with their financial commitments to the Federation.

They ended up last, and must look to possible amalgamations to gain a place next year or hope to be saved by APIA's defection to the PSL.

All the end-of-season politicking that goes on around the perimeter of the promotion-

relegation system in a developing situation such as exists in Sydney leads one to wonder once again if further thought should be given to a more viable system.

However, from a rather shaky-looking competition at the start of 1977 when the five clubs moved to the Philips Soccer League, the State League has grown to very acceptable proportions.

Premiers Croatia, seven point winners from Sutherland, were good enough to remove PSL early leaders Marconi from the Philips Cup — on Marconi's home ground.

In an electric atmosphere they won their way through on penalties after extra time, only to lose out to Newcastle in the second round.

On their standard of play Croatia are close to PSL quality right now.

Due to the poor followings of at

least three PSL clubs, they have supporters enough to almost meet the highest Sydney criteria, although whether they could expand is perhaps another matter.

For their "on" days the same high standard was apparent, particularly with Sutherland and Melita.

Both struck serious mid-season injury problems, but the level they reached in premiership semi-finals was an eye-opener.

What was achieved by the clubs who reached the Ampol championship semi-finals — Croatia, Sutherland, Melita and Auburn — was done largely by use of local products.

It leaves one pondering what most of Australia's major clubs are really doing to improve what is on their doorsteps!

Inter Monaro was the other great gain.

They are still shaking their heads in disbelief at missing out on the semi-finals after being in the four until Auburn nudged them out in the very last round.

Crowdwise it was a season that was all Croatia and Melita.

Some of the others did midding well, others again lacked enough support to justify themselves from that viewpoint.

Don't be surprised if clubs such as Blacktown and Polonia, with strong crowd potential, come through to challenge them in the next year or so.

Outside the four, APIA struggled but at least set up a stream of talented youngsters for the future.

Toongabbie fell down at the wrong time. If they could amalgamate and build their attendances they could be the Paramatta-Blacktown team of the PSL.

It is a position to which they aspire.

Marrickville Olympic, the last of



Rothmans executive Terry Powell with Terry Butler, popular winner of the 1978 Rothmans award as the State's best and fairest player.

the top group, failed to impress often enough.

The next group contained Avala, Yugal, Granville, Arncliffe and Manly.

They all had some good moments but, overall, they failed to capture the imagination enough with classy football.

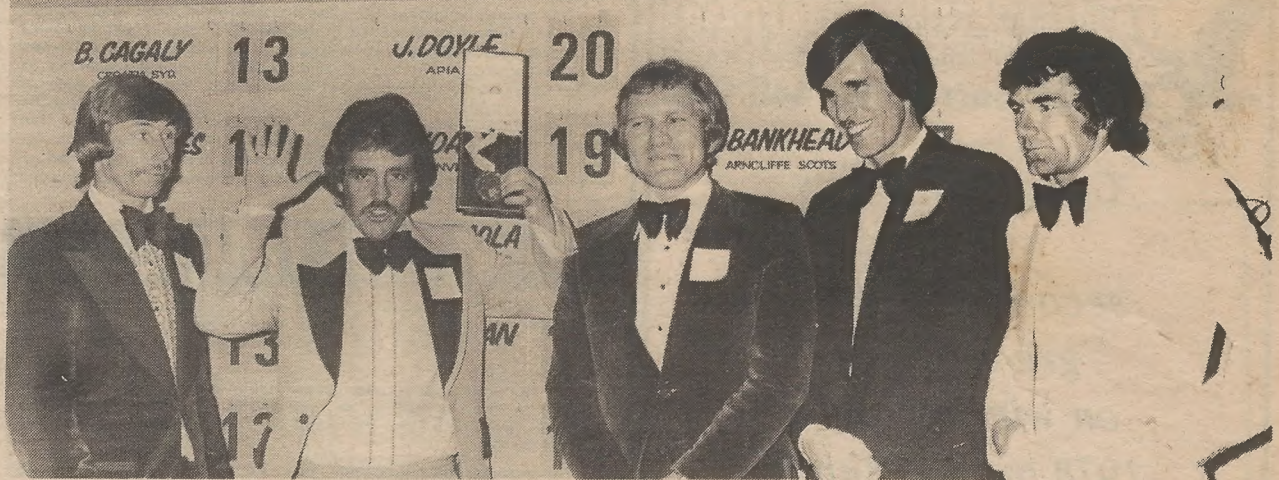
Down in the basement was Bankstown, who lost the fight with Arncliffe right at the end.

They go down, unless something saves them.

Now for the dawn of 1979. Kuring-gai are on the horizon.

They will need, their best friends tell them, to become much more professional on and off the park quickly, although their departed and successful coach Mick Jones says they could hold their place in State League on their present team.

BEST & FAIREST FOOTBALLER AWARD



Some of the previous winners of Rothmans award at last week's dinner. From left: John McDonald, Terry Butler (this year's man of the hour), Manfred Schaefer, John Watkiss and Bruce Stowell.



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as well as all their supporters,
players and members of the committee
for standing behind the
club in 1978

Adelaide News

Edited by
VIC MIGLIACCIO

In dramatic last-minute negotiations, West Adelaide and coach Jim Adam have decided to disagree on terms and part company.

West Adelaide will now advertise nationally for a suitable replacement.

Rumors have it that West Adelaide would like to attract a top man with coaching and management experience, and Rale Rasic could be on their short list if the "civil disturbance" in Marconi ends unfavorably for him.

The winter season is over, but not for the two Adelaide PSL representatives who on Sunday still have to settle a \$5000 score.

West Adelaide will meet Adelaide City at Hindmarsh for the play-off of the second leg of the rich Escort Cup.

West won the first leg 2-1 at Olympic Sport Field in May in the first league meeting between the clubs and the second leg was originally intended to be played in the final league match but both clubs agreed to delay the Escort Cup until after all Philips League and Cup commitments were over.

The cup is sponsored by W. D. & H. O. Wills.

For the long years that I have been involved with soccer these giant clubs, formerly known as Hellas and Juventus, have dominated the SA soccer scene with every match played

between the two sides producing top soccer and giving their huge band of supporters plenty of excitement. Sunday's match should be no exception.

West Adelaide, who are full of confidence after winning the championship, will kick off without regulars Graham Honeyman (holiday), Dave Pillans (business commitments) and Neil McGachey (recovering from a knee injury).

This would give Rudi Gutendorf's U-19 squad members George Koulianos and John Dedes a chance to play a full match.

Adelaide City, who hit a bad patch in the middle of the season and have not yet fully shaken off their problems, could find this game a hard one.

Youngsters like Luci Signore, Chris Miller and Charlie Villani are likely to be named in the squad.

It's not official, but according to reports Adelaide City will re-appoint coach Les Scheinflug for next season.

Scheinflug has already told his players that he will stay on next season.

City will hold their presentation night at their clubrooms on Saturday, October 28. Tickets are still available; contact social manager Otto Trento.

The SA Division of the Australian Referees' Federation is conducting a course for referees at Hindmarsh Stadium.

Any persons interested should

contact SA division secretary George Docherty on 296-5468 (after hours).

Salisbury Inter just ended a very successful year by sharing the first division amateur championships with Parafield Gardens, both teams finishing with 27 points and the same goal difference of 43 to 18.

Salisbury won the Coca-Cola Challenge Cup at Hindmarsh Stadium last Sunday when they defeated Parafield Gardens 3-2.

Salisbury proved to be true champions by winning the Gubbio's Cup at Norwood Oval on Monday, October 9.

Eight Italian-backed amateur league clubs took part in the knock-out cup as part of the sport section of the Italian Festival.

Salisbury Inter defeated Western United 2-0 in the final. The clubs which competed included Avellino, Altvilla, Malfetta, Molinara, Newton City and Loyola.

Five top referees gave their services: John Harrison, Carlo Barbo, Jim Rossis, Zoltan Kalocsai and Tony Martella.

The chairman of the Italian Festival (SA Div.), Luigi Penna, presented the cup.

Our congratulations to the organiser of the sport section of the Italian Festival, Pat Rossi, for the job well done.

During the afternoon various sports were featured. Adelaide City and Azzurri played an exhibition match, Adelaide City winning 4-2.

U-19 SQUAD

This is the initial Australian U-19 squad announced by Rudi Gutendorf:

New South Wales: Greg Woodhouse (Western Suburbs), John Karaspyros (Olympic), Paul Kay (St. George), Graih Hall (Sutherland), Mick O'Shea (St. George), Greg Ankudinoff (Western Suburbs), Ian Hunter (Nepean), Peter Katholos (Marrickville), Peter Raskopoulos (Olympic).

Victoria: Theo Selemidis (Fitzroy), Steve Kakantonis (Sth. Melbourne), Eddie Krivic (Essendon), Jeff Oliver (Albion Leyland), George Christopoulos (Sth. Melbourne), Stephen Blair (Albion Leyland), Alan Davidson (Altona).

South Australia: Ian May (Steel United), Paul Iannace (Azzurri), George Koulianos (West Adelaide), John Dedes (West Adelaide).

ACT: Steven Hogg (Canberra City), Michael Milovanovic (Canberra City), Joe Arquero (Canberra City), Danny Moulis (Canberra City), David Lindenmayer (Canberra City).

Queensland: Tony Scanlon (Annerley), Mark Brusasco (Brisbane City), John Ogden (Brisbane Lions).

Northern NSW: Peter Tredinnick (Newcastle United), Graham Jennings (Adamstown Rosebuds), Neal Endacott (Newcastle United), Malcolm McClelland (Adamstown Rosebuds).

Western Australia: John Spanos (Ascot), Charlie Iannantuoni (Azzurri).

2.00
SATURDAY 1PM



ROTHMANS STATE LEAGUE

Sunday, October 22
AMPOL CHAMPIONSHIP
GRAND FINAL

CROATIA v SUTHERLAND
3pm

Second Grade:
MANLY v APIA

Third Grade:
MANLY v SUTHERLAND
WENTWORTH PARK



SUPPORTS
SOCCER





ROTHMAN'S STATE LEAGUE



MANLY-WARRINGAH:

1 Having lost over half of the 1977 first grade squad, including player coach Roger Hoy, Manly-Warringah's hopes in 1978 were to consolidate their position in State League by blooding as many of our young players as possible, while ensuring that the club would not be relegated. The aim was to get 18 points, which was expected to keep us clear of relegation.

2 The aims of the club were achieved as our first grade battled through to get the 18 points. Due to some unfortunate publicity affecting the first grade coach in mid-season, the performances of the team fluctuated with some good wins and some disastrous losses. Our second and third grade teams won their respective premierships, reflecting the club's depth of local talent.

3 We feel that our structure and organisation is the best possible in our present financial circumstances. The results of our teams show our overall organisation is sound and our presentation of games, good amenities, public address and match program is probably the best in the State League.

4 Our main aim in 1979 is to get our clubhouse built. The delaying factor is negotiations with the shire council and the Lands Department over the swap of our land, which the council wants, for the land on the eastern side of the playing field. Naturally we will be planning to retain our position in the State League.

5 We will be looking for three experienced players to add to the present first grade squad. Already captain Brian Stocks has announced his retirement after 10 seasons with the club and possibly one or two others may move. The club has had preliminary negotiations with a member of the Italian Army team which toured Australia last year and is hoping to organise a sponsorship to cover the costs. We are aware that we cannot achieve honours in State League with a totally local team at present and must bolster our youngsters with some experience.

AVALA:

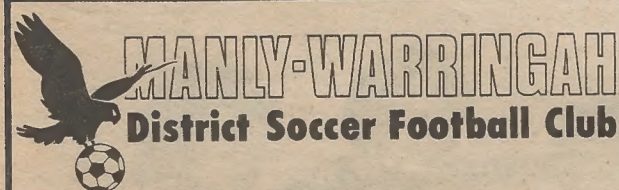
1 Our aim was to win the Ampol Cup again this season. However, we missed our chance by an odd goal which put us out of the finals. We were also aiming to improve our position from last year and to be the winner of the competition, or at least finish in the top four.

2 None. However, considering the conditions under which we were operating, we feel that not being relegated is a success.

3 The structure of our club is the same as last year. At the beginning of the season there were many enthusiastic committee members willing to work for improvement. However, at the end of this season only a few tenacious men are hard at work to promote our club.

4 Our aims will be the same as for this season and we believe that they will be achieved in 1979.

5 We shall keep our key players for next season. Our club will try to obtain some overseas players to improve our standard of play. We shall also endeavour to improve our second and third grades with good young players who will be signed up.



*Congratulations
to our
second and third
grade teams
on winning their
1978 premierships.*

*Thanks to all our followers
for their support.*

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**ON NOVEMBER
11 and 12,
18 and 19,
25 and 26**

How did the NSW Rothmans State League clubs see their season themselves? How much of their original plans did they manage to realise?

These are the questions we put to all 14 clubs some weeks ago. Regrettably, but not surprisingly — and despite several reminders — two clubs failed to respond. These, of course, have been omitted.

These were the identical questions:

1. WHAT WERE YOUR HOPES AND AIMS BEFORE THE SEASON?
2. WHICH OF THESE DID YOU ACHIEVE?
3. HAS THE ORGANISATION AND STRUCTURE OF YOUR CLUB IMPROVED?
4. WHAT DO YOU AIM TO ACHIEVE IN 1979?
5. WHAT MAJOR CHANGES ARE LIKELY IN THE PLAYING STAFF?

And now read the answers on the following pages.

This feature was devised and compiled by Stephen Dettre.

TOONGABBIE:

1 The target was a position half way up the League ladder, or better. A search was made for a substantial sponsor to aid financially. Another aim was to construct a world class playing field beside the licensed club, appoint a fulltime coach to implement the main aim of the club — to play in the PSL by the year 1980. A complex youth improvement program was planned to utilize the talent of youth in our area. Lastly, extensions to the club of a new auditorium, dining and games room was planned.

2 The first grade team finished exactly half-way in the competition. The new "Gabbie Stadium" is nearing completion and is a treat to see. The youth program brought instant success with the U-14 Federation team being NSW premiers. A new coach has been appointed for a three-year term on a fulltime basis with an extra help being a fulltime manager. The extensions to the club proper were pursued eagerly, but rejection of plans by council on technicalities set us back. But we are now under way again. A sponsor was secured, being "Tony Paker Holden", and his name was carried on the team shirts.

3 In 1978 the club organization changed slightly with the Federation football club handling all aspects of soccer instead of the board of directors as in previous years. This left the secretary-manager free to concentrate on making the licensed club more successful, and this happened as the club's best year since opening was experienced. In all the football was more professionally handled with all aspects more organized.

4 The formation of a steering committee to provide us with a successful application to play PSL in 1980. If admission is granted the construction of a first class roofed grandstand will commence immediately, along with a television tower. A sports promotion store will be opened to provide local clubs with all soccer gear. The aim is to throw down the gauntlet to Croatia's dominance of the premiership and at the same time to win the club championship in 1979. And last but not least further improve our youth development program.

5 The major change has been the appointment of Mick Jones as club coach on a fulltime basis, as Mal O'Neil, the 1978 coach, could not accept the position due to business commitments. Jones feels the team will require some new signings to win the competition in 1979. The club has allowed in its budget an allowance to purchase a striker in the class of an Abonyi, Boden or Aiston and enquiries are being made throughout Australia and overseas for the right man. The majority of the 1978 team will be retained, but strengthened by some class players. A reserve grade of top class is another aim of coach Mick Jones. A fulltime manager has been appointed — ex-president Bill Parkhouse — to handle all aspects in running the playing and promotion side of the club.

MV OLYMPIC:

1 The aims of the club were basically to field a good team and to get respectable results, and not to struggle to avoid relegation throughout the season. It was also hoped that a position in the top six teams may be attained.

2 The team managed to collect 25 points from 26 games, finishing eighth, coming very close to fulfilling the original aims. A string of bad injuries, notably to Greg Brown, and the loss of Jim Zeros overseas, also had their effect on the team.

3 The structure and organisation within the club improved greatly during the year, with the opening of the club's premises at Kyeemagh being of great significance. Recently the committee of the club was changed, with long serving president Andrew Vass regaining his old position, while Jim Ronis was elected vice-president and publicity officer. Together with their team they hope to carry on where this year's committee left off.

4 The club will strive for premiership honours in 1979.

5 The run for the premiership will mean a strengthening of the present squad by the addition of at least five new players. These players will not only reinforce the team, but fill in the gaps bound to be left by transfers. It is almost certain Peter Katholos will join a PSL club (St. George probably), while the return of Zeros from Greece is not imminent. Any additions to the team will be made during the off-season.

YUGAL:

1 The end of the 1977 season presented us with a number of problems: Supporter morale was low; Marks Field was under repairs and unavailable; poor results on the field increased our financial difficulties as attendances dropped. Our main aims for 1978 were to generate spectator support, increase player morale, place greater reliance upon young local players, find a new home ground and to regain the respectability that Yugal has had on the table.

2 We obtained Concord Oval as our new headquarters with probably the best facilities available to any Rothmans League club. A number of young players became permanent members of the first team: Pat Rodas, Stan Tanoski, both under 18. Two 16-year-old players played a number of times for the firsts: Sam Gallifuoco and Borca Magerovski. Other juniors who have shown talent are Peter Doglis, Tony Todorovski, Savvas Ioannides. We are indebted to our players who stuck by us in 1978. During the season our attendances improved which was another achievement for the club.

3 During the season we obtained well appreciated assistance from JAT Yugoslav Airlines and Pacific by Gorenje and we hope that this relationship will continue for 1979. During the season a number of younger committeemen took over and relieved the stalwarts of the 60s and 70s. With the opening of our social club our financial difficulties will be relieved.

4 We will be endeavouring to continue and improve on our achievements of 1978. With the aid of our sponsors and efforts of our committee we will achieve these aims.

5 At present we feel that the best policy is to develop young players and with the experience and enthusiasm of Sefi Radovac, Charlie Prgomelja, Peter Cuk, Andrew Mandrides, Tom Mihailovic and the return of Dusan Pirac will see us further up the table. To add spectator interest to the Rothmans League we are in the process of negotiating with a player in Yugoslavia.



Craig Hall, of Sutherland, wins, for the second time, the NSW Under-21 award, presented by NSW Federation president Karl Rodny.

SUTHERLAND:

1 Last year the club resolved to reach the grand final within three years. When the PSL started, we lost half our team, but this also provided an opportunity to start rebuilding with young players. Frankly, we didn't expect success for about three years.

2 Clearly, we were underestimating the ability of our young players. This year we won the Ampol Cup, came second in the premiership and have reached the grand final. For the second year running our youngest player, Craig Hall, has won the NSW under-21 player award. So the achievements were most satisfactory.

3 Sutherland won promotion to the first division only in 1969 and then struggled for many years through the continuous loss of young players to wealthier clubs. We have always been a true district club with volunteer administration.

4 With some 8000 registered juniors in the district, the club's future should be bright and our present administration is well able to find those new gems which we need. This, in turn, will make Sutherland even stronger.

5 We expect to lose two or three of our best youngsters next year — but expect to find suitable replacements from the lower ranks. From our present third grade team four or five should be playing for the first team within two years. We have no plans to charge into the transfer market but will follow our youth policy.

ARNCLIFFE SCOTS:

1 To improve our administration and bring it to the level required of First Division status; to field a young side that would gain the necessary experience and form the nucleus of a top team the following year; promote the youth aspect to gain support as against the previous ethnic side or "Scottish flavor", as we labelled it; increase our junior ranks with the hope of creating an area to form a future nursery.

2 Weekly instead of monthly committee meetings were introduced and several sub-committees established, freeing the players from the unique task of being involved in fund-raising. We aimed at a mid-table position without a drive for honors.

3 We had the best committee in the history of the club and our junior section got off the ground and performed beyond our wildest dreams. However, the first grade suffered alarmingly because of our change in priorities and this eventually cost coach Ross Warren his job with the club. The hardest battle was to raise funds and this was achieved through advertising and donations mainly. Max Player and Dennis Earl led the way in this area. Another aim was to find a block of dirt on which to build our future home ground and, if possible, licensed club also. Although nothing concrete has been finalised we are getting very close. We also split the secretary's job in half and for the first time had one man solely in charge of the playing side (president Terry Byrne) and the other handling administration (secretary Dave Dorian). This worked very well.

4 We are aiming for a winning team, playing attractive soccer that we hope will take out the State League. The key to this aim is new club coach Kaz Kulak. Already we have appointed a club manager in Tom McCaffray and with a hard working committee and sponsorship that has been organized for 1979 we will give Kaz and his right hand man, Tom, plenty of scope.

5 We have the experienced youth we were hoping for in players like Nick Katschambos, Dave Butler, Alan Smart, Frank Hall, Dave Baker and John Muskovits, who all improved out of sight in the latter stages of last year after all playing a full season, and their average ages are barely 19. We also have Alan Bankhead, an experienced and extremely talented midfielder, plus fellow midfielder Dave Martin and a top flight goalie in Norm Rogers. Add to these six top flight experienced new players who will join the club and we are in business. We of course have a very strong third grade side who, under coach John Davies, have come along tremendously this year. We will be looking to these lads challenging for top honours next season.



ARNCLIFFE SCOTS SOCCER FOOTBALL CLUB

Committee says thanks

TO THEIR PLAYERS, COACHES, MANAGERS
AND MARIO THE MASSEUR

also
TO EVE WALLIS AND THE GIRLS

*for making 1978 such a
happy year*

AND SPECIAL CONGRATULATIONS TO JOHN
DAVIES AND HIS THIRD GRADE FOR
REACHING THE FINALS



ROTHMAN'S STATE LEAGUE



• State League questionnaire continued from previous page.



Croatia's captain-coach Atti Abonyi with the 1978 State League trophy. Atti's happy grin is almost as big as the cup...

GRANVILLE:

- 1 The aims for 1978 were to consolidate the youth policy of the club, by giving the younger players a chance to establish themselves in the State League. It was hoped that after a season in the top flight they would be more ready to take on harder tasks in 1979.
- 2 This aim was achieved, with at least six youth players such as Graham Barker, Bruce Waldron and Barry Hoare having gained the experience whereby they are almost certainly assured of a regular first team place next season.
- 3 The administration and organisation of the club was greatly increased in 1978, as for the first time the football club was solely controlled by a football committee and not the licensed club board of directors. This in turn improved the club's overall administration, which is hoped to be carried on in the future.
- 4 The aim for 1979 is the aim of every club; to take part in the championship series and to do well.
- 5 The playing staff will be strengthened, though the decision as to what extent will be made at the end of the year.

NEXT WEEK

Our October 26 issue next week will be our last for 1978. In this, we will take a long and careful look at the various State Leagues throughout Australia, publishing all local tables and summaries. For followers of soccer it will be like an Australian year book — a truly unique record of the year.

CROATIA:

- 1 The primary aim of the club was to stay at the top. Secondary to this was to improve everything within the club; administration, player-committee relations and junior set up. Briefly, to make the club a more professional outfit.
- 2 These aims were achieved on the whole.
- 3 The administrative set up within the club was greatly improved and began to put into practice more forward looking plans — the gaining of the SSG as our venue was a triumph for the organization of the club. The structure also improved with the improvement in standard of junior teams, thus providing a base for future years.
- 4 For 1979 the task will be harder, but we aim to further consolidate the position of Croatia as the top team. Also we will look to improve spectator and playing facilities, with a view to owning our own ground in the near future.
- 5 There will be a general strengthening of the team in every department. This is because the pressure on the team to remain at the top will be greater than in 1978 and although the present squad is strong it must be even stronger for 1979.

INTER MONARO:

- 1 The main aim of the club was to establish itself within the NSW Federation, and to prove to the critics and fans that a "country" club — the first ever in the NSW Federation — could be a viable proposition. The club wanted to repay the Federation for its faith by performing as well as possible.
- 2 This aim was achieved, with the club doing better than most people had hoped for. Monaro was recognized as a powerful team throughout the season, and but for a string of injuries a higher place may have been attained.
- 3 The structure of the club was not changed for the season as it was felt that the set up was an efficient one. The team was run by the Monaro Soccer Committee, a sub-committee of the Marco Polo Social Club. However, the soccer committee had full power over any matter relating to football. This system had worked well over the past seasons in the ACT Federation and there was no reason to change it.
- 4 The aim for 1979 is to continue the on-field form of the team and to progress a step further into the semifinal series. Off the field the aims are diverse, but mainly are to improve spectator facilities at our ground, thereby winning more followers. The club also hopes to gain sponsorship for 1979 to help with transport. The long bus hauls to Sydney every other week began to tell on the players towards the end of the season and next year a few flights are planned.
- 5 The club hopes to be able to retain most of the players with Monaro this year even though approaches have been made from other State League and PSL clubs. The squad will be strengthened as the lack of depth this year became clear when injuries took away key players. At least one player in each department will be needed, with a new reserve goalkeeper a possibility as well.

SOCCERJOEYS?

Rudi Gutendorf took no time to ask for suggestions for names of the Australian under 19 team. First up I go for the Soccer-joey.

We already have the Soccer-joes, and a joey is, of course, the young of the kangaroo.

We might even bring a GPS-orientated crowd to their matches to barrack for (or against) the Joeys!

Typically Australian, speedy and unique, the 'roo and its young have a lot going for them.

Consider next the emu. The world's second largest bird, Australian from its claws to its beak, it is capable of sustaining 40 km per hour to beat its pursuer. So, then, there are the Socceremus.

Sockoalas, loveable as they are, hardly represent pace and fortitude.

There are a few other species to pass. The Soccerbustards may be misconstrued. And the Wompoo pigeoneeros lacks a little.

A mulga snakeroo? A yellow-bellied snakeroo?

Should bird life be involved, let's settle for the Soccercoos or the Soccerburras.

But Soccerjoeyes? I like that. But what about more suggestions?

— K.G.

ROTHMAN'S STATE SOCCER LEAGUE

FIRST GRADE LEADING GOALSCORERS

Atti Abonyi (Croatia)	21
Walter Valeri (Monaro)	16
Jim Izatt (Toongabbie)	15
John Doyle (APIA)	12
Craig Hall (Sutherland)	12
Ross Brown (Olympic)	11
Tony Morsello (Monaro)	11
Mick Stephenson (Auburn)	11
Sebastian Giampaolo (Monaro)	9
Alan Griffiths (Avala)	9
Bruce Waldon (Granville)	9
Terry Butler (APIA)	8
Terry Jones (Melita)	8
Walter Savor (Croatia)	8
Maurice Sullivan (Croatia)	8
Bruce Tilt (Auburn)	8
Andy Tracey (Auburn)	8
Peter Beggs (Sutherland)	7
Kevin Coleman (Croatia)	7
Eddie Patterson (Avala)	7
Mick Banks (Manly)	6
Denis Daley (Bankstown)	6
Willie Hamilton (Auburn)	6
Tom Mihailovic (Yugal)	6
Paul Smith (Sutherland)	6

SOCCER WORLD

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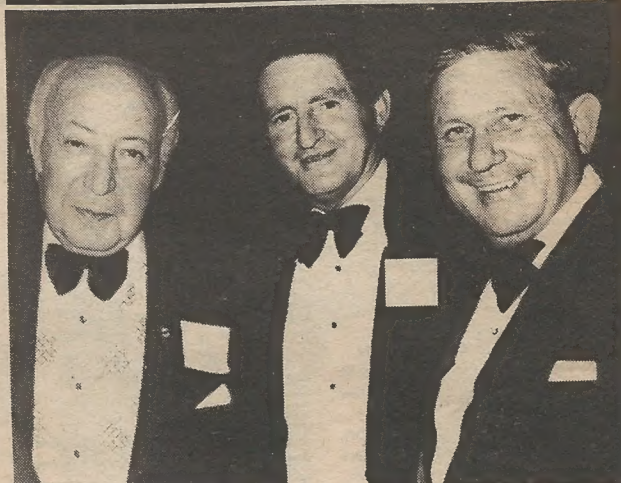
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DINNER GUESTS



Last week's Rothmans presentation dinner had NSW Minister for Sport, Ken Booth (right) as its guest of honor. With him in this picture are NSW president Karel Rodny (left) and "Soccer World's" Newcastle correspondent, Myles Hay — almost a neighbor of Ken Booth in the northern NSW city.

BANKSTOWN:

- 1 Our main aim was to stay in First Division and to keep all our local talent on which we can build in the future.
- 2 Unfortunately, we finished last but still hope to escape relegation through the merger of APIA and Western Suburbs. Our very bad start, due to administrative oversights, proved to be a big handicap.
- 3 The organisation of the club was somewhat improved as the season progressed.
- 4 The administration will undergo major improvements and our aim will be once again to remain in the State League.
- 5 There will be only very minor changes in our playing staff. Roger Bamforth will stay on as our coach as we feel he did a good job under difficult conditions.

APIA:

- 1 To win the Ampol Cup, the Rothmans State League, the championship grand final and to gain PSL status for 1979. The only other aim was to stimulate interest back in the club.
- 2 We achieved only one target. By amalgamating with Wests the club has been given a berth in the national competition.
- 3 No. In previous years the soccer section has been run like a well oiled machine. Organization has been better, and we must strive for the highest quality administration possible for next season.
- 4 We do not intend being passengers in 1979, and aim to win the PSL championship in our debut year. It is also an important aim of the new club to win back the dormant crowds.
- 5 At this stage we cannot faithfully answer this question as the new venture with Wests is only two weeks' old. However, it is hoped that at least two well known, high quality Italian players will be signed for 1979.



THE PRESIDENT AND MANAGEMENT OF APIA-LEICHHARDT

wish to thank their players,
staff and spectators
for their support in 1978
and promise them
that the year 1979
will see once again

THE GREAT APIA!

BELMORE SOCCER CLUB

Applications for COACHES

in writing for the under 14, 15 and 16
NSW Federation teams for 1979 are now
being invited.

Closing date Wednesday,
November 1,
with the secretary:

K. MURRAY, 21 Scott Street, Belfield

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Second Div. lacked real star teams

Lack of a "crowd puller" team took most of the lustre from this season's second division competition and also brought a fall in attendances, despite the absence of official figures.

— By Charles Spiteri —

The fair size crowds which followed Melita Eagles last year and Avala the year before were almost non-existent in second division matches this season even though the competition was as keen and tough as ever.

Only Polonia managed a substantial rise in spectator support, most particularly in the last few rounds of the season when they hit peak form, overrunning the champions Ku-ring-gai in their last commitment of the season.

But their run of good form came far too late for them to be able to challenge for the championship which was won by Ku-ring-gai by a clear five points from their closest rivals Revesby.

Polonia only managed to finish in fourth position with 29 points to their credit.

In their bid for promotion, Polonia imported four Polish stars this season in Andrej Pietrzyk, Bogdan Wisniewski, Bigniew Strzelecki and Slawek Wozniczka which helped immensely in lifting the team's standard of play.

Strzelecki, who was assistant coach with first division Polish club Arka Gdyna, has already been appointed player-coach for Polonia next season, effective from October 1.

All four are contracted to play for the club next season and, having acclimatised to the local scene, big improvement is expected from them.

The infusion of these top players in the side has helped tremendously the development of their young local players such as brothers Andy and Ricky Budini, Vince Pesa, Stephen Fisher and Andy Greenfield, all of whom showed enormous improvement towards the end of the season.

Polonia may have taken more than they can chew for, while the team rebuilding was going on, club officials were also engaged in building one of the best grounds and facilities in the western suburbs.

On ten acres of ground, in a tree-surrounded setting a few miles west of Blacktown at Plumpton, Polonia is well underway in building a fine soccer stadium complete with up-to-date facilities which will soon rival the Marconi set-up at Bossley Park.

With the new facilities well underway, Polonia, for the first time in the club's history, is to venture into junior soccer and already have appointed a sub-committee under Stefan Novak to organise the juniors to play in the district competition.

This is essentially a long range plan which will not only benefit the club but the youngsters in the western areas around Plumpton.

However, the focus of attention this season was the rise of Ku-ring-gai who won the championship and next season will be playing in the Rothmans State League.

With Mick Jones at the helm and Frank Malone the midfield general, Ku-ring-gai went ahead in leaps and bounds, and deserved to win their way to the top.

They did this mostly with the help of local talented youngsters like Alan Robertson, Frank Walton, Mick West, Trevor Reeves, Alan King to mention a few, in addition to the experience of Albert Kinsey, Graham Firrell, and a few others.

The resignation of Mick Jones to take the Toongabbie job was a huge setback for the club and the search is on for a replacement as quickly as possible.

However, despite several applications received, the club is not expected to make a decision hastily and a replacement is not likely for several weeks.

Club officials are resigned to the fact that to survive in first division, strength is urgently needed and the first act of a new coach will be to advise on player requirements tailored to club finances.

It was hoped that a ground will be acquired around Chatswood but, with this proposition falling through, it is likely that Ku-ring-gai will stick to its ground at Parklands Oval which, as yet, has to attract a big crowd for their matches.

One of the most successful clubs in the division was certainly Blacktown United who were promoted from third division at the start of the season and finished third on the competition.



W. Valeri, Monaro

Coach Jimmy Gallagher has continued the work of his predecessor Chris James in extracting the maximum from the limited talent at his disposal.

Some of the youngsters in the side such as Ralph Ramisch, Doug Foster and Bobby Vincent really shone during the season with good support from Greg McCoy, Alec Gardner, John Lee and goalkeeper Bruce James.

Incidentally, Blacktown has re-appointed Chris James to coach the side next season.

After their showing this season, the youngsters could be a threat in the championship.

The amalgamation of Western Suburbs and APIA provides Revesby Workers, who finished second in the competition, with an opportunity of gaining promotion.

Revesby, capably coached and well drilled by Greg Byles, never seriously went after promotion, but the club took as it came and did exceptionally well against the top teams.

Although nothing is finalised as yet, it is expected that Greg Byles will be appointed again as captain-coach for next season.

The club has finalised renewal of its sponsorship by CTC Lines for next season as the sponsor was quite pleased with their efforts in 1978.

Revesby's intention was to make a concentrated effort for the championship in 1980 but if the opportunity is presented — which is likely to be — they will certainly try to get in next year. They could well figure in a play-off with neighboring Bankstown for the right to play first division next season.

The team has a very solid defence with Lyle Pittman, Peter Copas, Neil Adams and others,

and good midfield in Byles, Graham Watson and Gary Patterson.

However, it lacked punch up front as only Kenny Thorpe (who scored about 15 goals this season) showed the ability that he could get the goals. The return of Ken Scully to the firing line helped a little but did not resolve the problem.

One of the surprise teams in the division was newcomer University of NSW which, right through the season, maintained a position in the top four on the competition table until edged out by Polonia in the last rounds.

The students battled for most of the year with a caretaker coach and that must have affected the outcome at the end.

Despite their amateur status, University's approach to the game was quite professional and it didn't take long to establish respect even from the strongest teams in the division.

In Conrad Carvaj, the students possessed one of the best strikers in the division, although it was unfortunate that he missed out on most of the second leg of the competition because of some training problems.

Stopper Bob Erhardt had a tremendous season, together with Ian Pengally, who was the mainstay of the side in midfield.

Ken Rootsey, playing the dual role of striker-midfielder was a very useful goalgetter, grabbing many important goals that decided the points Uni's way.

John Kelly, the caretaker playing-coach for the bigger part of the season, did an excellent job in keeping the side together.

Belmore's lack of depth and their financial limitations thwarted substantially the efforts of coach Paul Corbett.

The club had a flying start early in the season but it lacked talent and experience which, at the end, took its toll.

No doubt the vast experience of Dennis and John Yaager and Johnny Hawthorne in goal contributed greatly to a successful season which enabled the club to finish smack in the middle of the table.

There were very few players to come up through the grades this season but the ones who made it such as Andy McMullen, John Vergos and Bramston stood up well against their more experienced opponents.

The club fielded strong second and third grades sides which, obviously would bring forward some youthful talent to strengthen the team next season.

Most of these youngsters have been trained and nurtured by Corbett over the past few years and some are likely to get their breaks in first grade in 1979.

Queens Park, after a disastrous start to the season, finished on a high note by going through undefeated in the last 10 games of the season.

Kaz Kulak had very little luck with the team early and, although he had the boys playing good football, results went against him, often with the odd goals.

After his resignation, everything seemed to right itself and the goals that mattered kept coming in every game.

Despite a devastating run towards the end, North Sydney failed to make the semis but still had one of their better seasons in second division.

The club had a poor start but in a sudden change of policy Phil Bottalico was given the coaching reins and almost bought a new team to work with.

New players included goalkeeper Michael Mikolajczyk from Toongabbie, midfielders Paul Richards and Bill Millen from Marconi, fullback Carl Schilliro from Melita, winger Bobby Goose from Bankstown and John Simpson and Eddie Reid from Auburn.

After some teething problems, the team performed rather well and only a spate of injuries deprived it from a higher place on the table.

Some of the players in the side were on a "loan" basis but if the team is kept together in 1979 it will be a stronger force to contend with.

Warringah Saint and Gladesville were just about the same strength and hardly impressed in the competition although they occasionally snatched points from the stronger teams.

In fact, the first point Ku-ring-gai dropped was to Warringah. Both teams relied solely on local talent, which was rather thin.

At Gladesville Eddie Lorenc had some very good games and scored some very decisive goals which kept the club out of relegation trouble.

Of course, the relegation struggle was between Guildford and Marrickville all the way which was eventually lost by the latter.

Lower divisions were not without problems

— BY VAL HOKIN AND EMMANUEL KANNA —

The 1978 season can be classified only as an average one when performances and crowds are taken into consideration through all divisions.

There were, however, some exciting and unexpected results towards the end of the season.

While in the PSL Marconi were slipping and West Adelaide emerging as premiers and lowly Brisbane City ran away with the Philips Cup, there were equally fascinating and surprising finishes in the lower divisions.

When considering the Amateur Divisions, however, with some insight, one can see reasons for the varying performances of the participating clubs.

In addition to the dreaded circumstance when a club lost its regular coach (Paddington and Haberfield, Div. 5, and Fairfield Kiev, Div. 4, for example), there seems to have been a general pattern developing.

Among clubs which reached the top four places in their divisions, it seemed the following were contributing factors:

1. Established club backing and presence of sponsorship;
2. A good management committee with enthusiasm;
3. A combination of a good coach with youth and talent amongst the players;
4. An enthusiastic supporting crowd (which may be the end result of the above mentioned points).

A combination of the above factors always produced good results and the downfall of some appeared to be the lack of an essentially good, smooth-running management.

Lack of one or two of these points affected the performances of clubs in such a way as to create an obstacle in improving on the results.

Looking at the picture overall, Divisions 3 to 7 do provide a proving ground where management committees and their worth are tested, and where the talent of young local players can be nurtured through junior ranks to higher divisions.

In the 3rd Division, Nepean won the premiership deservedly and the club's performance in the other two grades is good indication that they are near their peak and likely to hold their own in the Second Division in 1979.

It is the first time for Nepean to reach such a high status and this has been forthcoming, slowly but surely, in the past few years.

Coming second in 3rd Div. was Bathurst, followed by Bondi in third place.

The former has shown great promise since joining the Federation last season direct into the 4th Division.

Bondi, a club with a very consistent record, is most likely to prove itself with even better results.

In the 4th Division it was Baulkham Hills all the way, led by the very capable Vic Renkovetski as coach.

Vic, however, admits that the youth and the talent in his squad were the contributing factors to their excellent performance.

Fielding three grades for the first time next year does not worry the coach at all, as he claims to have confidence in his players and the club.

Ashcroft, beating Sydney Uni students for the second place, is another club with big support behind it.

Having gained promotion every year so far, it is surely an indication that the club is aiming high.

At the bottom of the Division came Fairfield Kiev, a club with licensed premises and good backing, though lacking in administration.

In the 5th Division it was Bonnyrigg Eagles winning promotion for the third time in succession.

The Eagles won the premiership and promotion through sheer determination and plan to achieve the status of the 3rd Division before 1980.

They have the backing of an established club with a licensed clubhouse to be completed in 1979 which will bring financial security.

Their Sport Management Committee maintains a high standard for players and supporters.

Following them were Kingsford, also gaining promotion, again a team made up of talented, keen players supported by a very hard working management and also a licensed club.

In the 6th Division, Eastern Creek topped the tables undefeated for the second year. This is a club with good organisation, talent, sponsorship and high aspirations and a very enthusiastic management.

Following closely were West Holroyd, a fast growing club, giving consistent performances and with a strong following.

At the bottom of the division were Green Valley, who have not fared well for the past several years mainly due to management problems at the senior level.

The 7th Division saw Edensor Park win first place. Supported by a licensed club and a very good committee, the club will have its own pitch, spectator area and training ground for their assault on 5th Division in 1979.

Maccabi and Chullora finished equal second in this division and both will be in 6th Division in '79.

Chullora have an established club behind them with talented juniors to strengthen their '79 squad.

Maccabi have strong support from the Jewish community and should do well in 6th Division.

One problem common particularly to clubs in the Liverpool, Fairfield and surrounding areas is the number of senior teams participating in various associations.

One of the many clubs affected is Prospect County. After a good build up of management and finance, the future without a flow-on of juniors looked bleak.

Fortunately, they have been able to amalgamate with another club of similar high standards and aims and now will compete as Guildford County.

PEACE IN OUR TIME

In the 11th hour, the five Sydney PSL clubs had a change of heart and decided to return to the NSW Federation.

They accepted, albeit reluctantly, the condition that they must field three teams.

Now the NSW Federation can reorganise its State League and introduce a new first division as well.

The return to the fold also means that next year's NSW Ampol Cup will be a great success, what with the presence of the PSL clubs.

At its meeting last week, the PSL re-elected Sam Papisavas as chairman and Charlie Caruso as his deputy.

The third executive position went to Hakoah's Harry Lakmaker, replacing Footscray's Tony Kovac.



Coke adds life to the winning goal.

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CONGRATULATIONS TO THE PHILIPS LEAGUE PLAYER OF THE YEAR KEN BODEN OF NEWCASTLE KB UNITED

"KB" put bite into Newcastle brew

Painter Ken Boden is an intriguing artist — he may not wield his four inch paint brush in his fulltime occupation with the same deep feeling as a Van Gogh, Constable or Rembrandt.

However, the dexterity and supreme confidence with which he strokes a football past bewildered opponents commands a similar degree of awe in the minds of art lovers.

Newcastle KB United in their inaugural season as a combatant in the highly rated Philips Soccer league competition wanted a hero, a super-personality player.

This unique character arrived in Sydney last January en route to Newcastle, the most unassuming and quietest of the "new breed" who were to form the backbone of United's hopes.

His uncanny ball skills were evident early in trial matches and, as the season progressed, Boden's ability was recognised by rival defenders and coaches.

His lightly built frame and seeming innocuous advances with the ball fastened to his feet suddenly became a menace, the type of which had not been encountered before by these confident rearward players.

Week after week he hoodwinked tough backline men and bewildered coaches who considered they had solved the "magic" of Boden.

Indeed, it was not a sleight of foot magician's trick that Boden pulled out each week, it was sheer artistry by a composed striker who stood out alone in his particular role.

Ask any soccer player which position is the most difficult to play in the modern game and invariably he will reply that the task of target-man striker is fraught with every obstacle.

Boden finished as joint leading goalscorer with Clive Eaton of Western Suburbs, each notching 14 goals in the PSL series.

The majority of Boden's goals were deliberately placed efforts, again raising the question of why has this "unknown" Englishman been so successful in Australian soccer?

Why, after one season is he talked about as a \$30,000 player?

Even Boden himself is astounded and a little bewildered about all the acclamation bestowed on him this season.

Raised in Rotherham amid intense soccer rivalry in that part of Yorkshire, Boden carried the dream of most English youngsters of becoming a top soccer player.

He kicked a football for countless hours in the tenement-lined streets of industrial Rotherham and in the neighboring parkland — not in any organised junior football as we know it in Australia, but just a bunch of kids with an insatiable desire to play.

Boden was probably a bit more gifted than many other youngsters, his gentle and almost endearing caressing of the ball being a natural talent nurtured by his many hours of street football.

Yet he was not to make it in the highly competitive area of professional football in England.

Two seasons with Doncaster Rovers, neither highlighted by first team appearances, were followed by a sojourn in English non-league football with Brigg Town.

Goals have been an integral part of Boden's armoury, but in his late twenties, the dream of making an impact in soccer anywhere in the world had almost left him.

Making a trip 12,000 miles to Australia was an awesome thought for him who had not ventured far from the closely allied counties of Yorkshire and Lancashire, nor had he been airborne before.

But he did not realise the persuasiveness of Newcastle United manager-coach Alan Vest.

Vest had been given \$20,000 by the newly constituted club to "buy" a team to represent the Northern NSW city in the PSL series.

Boden had been recommended by Mick Jones, now coaching Toongabbie in Sydney and, within a matter of weeks, he was winging his way to Australia still in an apprehensive frame of mind of just what was before him.

— By Myles Hay —

On the same flight were Peter Kay, Craig Mason, Bill Summerscales and Peter Willis — yet no one realised that they were to be teammates until collected by Newcastle officials at Mascot airport.

That the 1978 season has been the most memorable in the entire soccer life of Ken Boden will not be questioned.

He sauntered (he never seems to run) onto the field against Eastern Suburbs-Hakoah before a crowd in excess of 15,000 at the International Sports Centre, and became the crowd's hero by scoring Newcastle's first goal ever in the 76th minute.

His success, both as a crowd pleaser and a redoubtable opponent, has hinged around his great temperament, his high work rate and that unbridled desire to score goals.

In many matches through the year he has come in for some tough treatment by frustrated defenders, but he has taken these knocks as part of risk elements of a ball playing striker.

His unshakable disposition has enabled him to shrug off numerous illegalities on the part of opponents and immediately threw himself back into the spirit of the game.

Boden flew back to his native Rotherham last week along with 21-year-old fullback Peter Willis and local player John Sneddon.

Sneddon was taking advantage of the air trip prize awarded to him as the "Sun-Quantas" player of the year in 1977 while a member of the West Wallsend team in the Northern NSW first division.

They will be back in Newcastle early in January, 1979, to recommence training after an extremely tough season.

Boden and Willis have been playing continuously since August, 1977, over 13 months of non-stop soccer.

A stranger visiting the International Sports Centre at a Newcastle United home game could easily misconstrue the many advertising posters emblazoned "KB" in red and gold; and justly consider that these local supporters must rate their Ken Boden extremely highly, as indeed they do!

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ENTERTAINMENT GUIDE FOR MEMBERS

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WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 25: Disco Night — 7.30pm.
THURSDAY, OCTOBER 26: Movie — 8.00pm.

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WORLD NEWS



SHOCKS GALORE IN EUROPEAN CH'SHIP

Quite a few surprises were produced in the last fortnight's European Championship matches.

In Budapest the "same" Hungary, which earlier had lost to Finland in Helsinki, easily beat the group favorites USSR 2-0, with goals by Varady and newcomer Szokolai. Meanwhile, the "same" Finns

travelled to Athens and crashed 8-1 against Greece.

In Stockholm, a rebuilt Czechoslovakia, managed by Joseph Venglos, beat Sweden 3-1, largely through the brilliant displays of Ondrus and Masny.

Hellstrom, the usually reliable Swedish goalie, had a poor day and was blamed by his manager Georg Ericsson for two of the goals.

In Zagreb, Spain celebrated the 50th international of manager Laszlo Kubala with a great 2-1 win after leading 2-0. The Yugoslavs dominated the second half but couldn't draw level. East Germany beat Iceland 3-1

with a team where the Peter Riediger-Hoffmann trio dicatated terms but Pommerenke and veteran goalie Croy also excelled.

As expected, Holland had little trouble beating Switzerland 3-1 at Berne.

Two other matches ended in draws: In Copenhagen Denmark played 2-2 with Bulgaria and in Lisbon Portugal were held to 1-1 by Belgium.

DATES OF BIG GAMES

These are the forthcoming matches in October, November December in the European Championships:

Group 1

October 25: Eire v England.
October 25: North Ireland v Denmark.
November 29: Bulgaria v North Ireland.

Group 2

October 25: Scotland v Norway.
November 15: Austria v Portugal.
November 29: Portugal v Scotland.

Group 3

October 25: Rumania v Yugoslavia.
November 15: Spain v Rumania.
December 13: Spain v Cyprus.

Group 4

November 15: Holland v East Germany.
November 15: Poland v Switzerland.

Group 5:

All next year.

Group 6

October 28: Greece v Hungary.

Group 7

October 25: Wales v Malta.
November 29: Wales v Turkey.

CUP VENUES

These are the dates and venues for the 1979 Euro-Cup finals:

Champions' Cup: May 30, Munich.
Cupwinners' Cup: May 16, Basel.
UEFA Cup: May 9 and 23, in home cities of finalists.

MENOTTI'S NOSTALGIA

Luis Cesar Menotti, manager of Argentina, bound to Buenos Aires by contract until the end of 1978, has received numerous overseas offers — including one from West Germany, at \$220,000 a year.

Menotti still speaks of the World Cup with a great deal of nostalgia.

"And not just because of our win," he adds.

"It united the Argentinian people as nothing before that. We also had new avenues, stadiums and airports built.

"I'm scared that in another few years we will say: 'Do you remember those wonderful days? When everybody was friendly, when the telephones worked, when the seats in the stadium were clean?'"

"Maybe Argentina will never re-live those great days of June, 1978."

Kevin Keegan is on the way to becoming a rich man. Apart from his princely salary with Hamburg (about \$150,000 a year), he is now earning \$45,000 a year from endorsements and \$30,000 as commentator on BBC-TV. Every Saturday afternoon, after the Hamburg matches, he flies to London to take part in the "Match of the Day" panel discussion, then on Sunday flies back to Germany. No rest for the wicked...

Adidas will supply the balls to the 1982 World Cup in Spain and they will be called Granada, Bravo, Fiesta or Mihura.

England now has six foreigners in the League clubs: Ardiles and Villa, both from Argentina (Tottenham); Sabella, Argentina (Sheffield United); Tarantini, Argentina (Birmingham); Arnold Muhren, Holland (Ipswich), and Marjan Golac, Yugoslavia (Southampton). This time last year they had none...

The Yugoslav national manager, Slavko Lustica, has resigned after only a few weeks in office. Lustica was appointed just before the European Championship game against Spain but couldn't prepare the team because of his illness. Yugoslavia lost 1-2 in Zagreb and now, until November 15, on a temporary basis, Ante Madinic has been appointed manager.

Of the USSR team which even two years ago was heavily built on Dynamo Kiev only three Ukrainian stars have remained: Burjak, Konikov and Blochin.

Klaus Urbanczyk, the former East German great, is now coach of Magdeburg. Urbanczyk was forced into early retirement through a serious injury.

Jupp Derwall, the new West German manager, has included some new faces in his national squad: Goalie Burdinski, defender Foerster, midfielder Allofs and also former internationals Toppmoller and Worms.

Pirri — real name Jose Martinez Sanchez — Real Madrid's veteran star, will either retire next year at 34 or will join a club of his choice on a free transfer, after 15 years with the Madrid club and many seasons as the captain of Spain.

Ted Croker, secretary of the English FA, has announced that following the hooliganism of some of their supporters in future they will ban supporters travelling abroad with the team — and will ask all other associations not to sell them tickets even on an individual basis.

Laszlo Balint, the Hungarian international stopper of Ferencvaros, suffered a severe concussion and will be out of action for weeks.

Jacek Gmoch, manager of Poland, has resigned. He was bitterly criticised in the Press — and also by his predecessor and former friend, Gorski — for the team's timid, defensive World Cup displays. Temporarily the manager is Ryszard Kulesza, coach of the Polish youth team.

Cosmos scored a brilliant 5-3 win in Athens against Greek champions AEK (coached by Ferenc Puskas), with Chinaglia getting a hat-trick, in front of 20,000 spectators.

Jock Stein has become the new manager of Scotland, following the long overdue resignation of Ally McLeod, who has returned to his old club, Ayr United.

Johan Cruyff has declined a fabulous offer from Chelsea and intends to stay in retirement, playing only an occasional match on invitation.

According to reports from Budapest, the next president of the Hungarian Association is likely to be former famous broadcaster Gyorgy Szepesi.

The proposed transfer of Uli Hoeness from Bayern Munchen to Hamburg fell through in the last minute when the player refused to undergo an "exploratory" operation to establish whether his previous cartilage surgeries have left behind any permanent damage. "It's humiliating," said Hoeness. "I won't be examined like a horse on the market."

Otto Knefler, Eintracht Frankfurt's new coach, suffered serious injuries in a car smash.

The Swedish Association is considering a request from clubs to increase the number of foreigners per team from one to two.

The South American Championships will be held between June 15 and August 31 next year. The countries will start off in three groups.

The Greek Olympiakos, which is likely to tour Australia in November and December, has been eliminated from the second round of the UEFA Cup, losing to the Bulgarian Levski Spartak Sofia on 4-3 aggregate.

A West German reporter, Stefan Hehn, in an article criticised two Hamburg stars. One, Willi Reimann, took revenge and bashed up the journalist. Now Hamburg have fined the player \$2200 — and he will also stand trial on charges of assault.

Alfredo Di Stefano may return to Valencia as manager. With him Valencia won the Spanish title in 1971 — then they sacked him.

Former West German manager Helmut Schoen will officially take his farewell from his friends and fans in Frankfurt on Nov. 15 during the friendly international against Hungary.

Tommy Docherty can't be described as a slow coach: In his one year with Derby he has sold or bought 31 players, for a total of \$15 million — and at a deficit of \$450,000.

Malcolm Macdonald, the Arsenal striker, has resumed training after his cartilage operation.

Didi, the famous former Brazilian star now coaching in Saudi Arabia, spent his recent holidays in Spain sunbathing. "The sun in the Middle East is too hot," he told journalists.

That "colored boy who can play a bit", Cubillas, as Scotland manager Ally McLeod had warned his players before the World Cup, has decided to stay home in Peru.

Brazilian journalists have selected their team of the year — and have excluded such stars as Nelinho, Batista, Gil, Roberto, Zico, Leao and Dirceu, with Zenon from champions Guarani topping the poll.

"Life is tougher at the bottom," says the heading of a story by Ray Clemence in an English magazine. Really, who would have thought...

West Bromwich Albion's veteran striker Tony Brown has been with the club since 1963 and during that period has scored 209 goals in 528 appearances.

Franz Beckenbauer: "The English League is easily the strongest and hardest in the world."

Former Italian star Luigi Allemandi, member of the 1934 world champion side, died at 75.

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